

Sunset Building High Octane Cracking Unit

High octane gasoline, to be used as a mixing agent for inferior grades, will flow from a cracking plant now under construction at Sunset Oil Company's Figueroa plant, Cecil Squire, superintendent, has announced.

The plant was started Aug. 1, and, barring unforeseen delays, will be completed by Feb. 1, 1953, Squire said. Cost of the system—which will be the third at the plant, will run between \$500,000 and \$800,000.

The cracking and polymerization plant will be set up to produce 100-octane aviation gas if it is needed.

One 60-foot and one 40-foot tower are now going up, and are due to be finished within a month, with lesser towers encircling the present second crude unit. The initial plant, too, produces crude.

9 TIMES MORE TAX

Net collections of state gasoline taxes of \$1,651,515,000 in 1951 were approximately nine times the amount collected by individual state governments 25 years earlier.

Steel Plant Pioneers Smog Control for Steel Industry

Early one morning last year the smoke stopped coming out of the four tall stacks at the steel mill of the Columbia-Geneva Steel Division of United States Steel Co. in Torrance.

Sleepy-eyed residents who noticed that there was no smoke probably wondered what had happened down at the mill, for it has long been a landmark in the entire Torrance area. What had actually happened was that engineers at the Columbia-Geneva plant had placed four giant electrostatic precipitators in operation.



EXECUTIVE HEADS . . . of Sunset Oil Company look over plans for expansion of Torrance, Calif., refinery by addition of thermo-cracking unit. Standing, left to right: William T. Tietz, assistant secretary-treasurer; Morton A. Streling, vice-president; Leo Pearlston, general sales manager; Dave Oreck, assistant sales manager. Seated, left to right: Harvel Nelson, vice-president; J. Dave Sterling, president; M. L. Friedman, secretary-treasurer.

Almost the first of their kind to be used in the steel industry the precipitators had been placed on the four open hearth furnaces of the Torrance mill at a tremendous cost to cleanse the smoke of its impurities before it reached the air.

Industrialists from all over the world now stop by the U. S. Steel open hearth furnaces at Torrance to see these important units and to check their amazing results; for air pollution is always an important problem in manufacturing and the successful experiment at the Torrance mill will be a milestone in the battle to rid smoke of impurities.

City's Hub

Historically the Torrance steel mill has several milestones of progress to its credit. Actually the city itself almost grew up around it. When Jared Sidney Torrance first made his plans for the city he contacted the five Llewellyn brothers, who owned and operated the Llewellyn Iron Works in Los Angeles. He asked the five men to build a plant in the city he was planning.

Business was good and the Llewellyns planned to expand. They liked Torrance's plan for a city and agreed to build their plant in the new city. The city and a depression were born at the same time, so the steel mill was not started until late in 1913.

One employee still working at the mill today, Louis Check, came to work at the Torrance property before they even started the mill. Check recalls that Llewellyn Llewellyn, the oldest brother, called him into the Los Angeles office one day and said, "Louis, would you like to go to Torrance and help build our new steel mill?"

"Yes, I'll go, Mr. Llewellyn," Check answered, "but where in the heck is Torrance?"

First Heat 1916

The first heat of steel from the little open hearth furnace



was poured in the new mill in December, 1916, and business commenced to come in.

During the following year a foundry was added to the mill for making marine castings for the navy during World War I. It was about this time that the supply of workers for the mill became so scarce that the Llewellyns brought in a tribe of Mojave Indians from Arizona to work in the newly erected rolling mills.

Indians Leave

The company built houses for the Indians in the back yard of the plant but the big problem

was keeping the new workers sober, for they shortly learned how good the local wine was to the sun-baked palates.

Some of the old time residents of Torrance still like to recall a football game one Thanksgiving Day. The Indians got together a team to play a team of local youths. Those who saw the game say it was one of the bloodiest in Torrance history.

grew and prospered, and in 1928 mill became capable of producing the rapidly growing territory of Southern California.

On February 1, 1930, the United States Steel Corporation bought the net assets of Columbia Steel Corporation and the big USS went up above the Columbia plant at Torrance.

After Columbia acquired the property two more open hearth furnaces were added to the plant. Columbia purchased the equipment of the Pacific Sheet Steel Company in 1928 and moved it from South San Francisco to Torrance, so that the

mill badly needed sheet steel for

the rapidly growing territory of Southern California.

Since that time U. S. Steel has gradually added to and improved on its property there until today more than 1400 employees work at the little plant on Border Ave.

A Torrance Industry Since 1946

Manufacturer of Mineral Wool Insulations

American Rock Wool Corp.

TORRANCE, CALIF.

DEDICATED TO COMMUNITY PROGRESS

The remarkable growth of Torrance continues with ever-increasing momentum. Thousands of new homes, a huge population increase and millions of dollars invested in new industry and business attest to the importance of this community. The Torrance National Bank is proud of the part it has played and will play in the great progress of this city.



1942



1952

These Figures Tell Ten-Year Past Growth of Torrance National Bank

June 30, 1942
Total Assets
\$1,185,796

June 30, 1952
Total Assets
\$5,953,687

Increase
\$4,767,891

CAPITAL STRUCTURE

June, 1942	\$150,747
June, 1952	\$305,649

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.



TORRANCE NATIONAL BANK

Torrance California

"A Friendly Torrance Institution"

1329 Sartori Ave.

Torrance 108

EXPANSION UNDER WAY At SUNSET OIL REFINERY



Sunset's Modern Torrance, California, Refinery

Your Credit is Good

for Gasoline, Tires, Lube, Accessories

Just present any major oil company credit card at any Golden Eagle Gasoline Station—and a convenient charge account will be opened for you immediately.

Important additions are being made to the Sunset refinery at 21000 South Figueroa St., Torrance, which now has 10,000 barrels daily topping facilities. A Thermal-Cracking unit is being added with capacity of 3000 barrels daily and 100 barrel polymerization plant for the production of high octane gasoline.

Expansion is under way in the retail field. New Golden Eagle Gasoline stations, mostly large multi-pump units, are being built throughout California, Oregon and Washington. Many millions of dollars will be expended by Sunset in the first few months of 1953 in adding new outlets for Golden Eagle Gasoline.

Want to grow with us? We need men in all departments of this rapidly expanding company—especially men trained in service station operation. If inexperienced, get paid while you train in our Service Station School. Write of your experience and desires to Employment Dept., Sunset Oil Co., 3450 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 5, California.



THE GASOLINE THAT LUBRICATES